

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

1. (Previously Presented) An electronic form acquiring method employed for
5 an electronic form system that certifies a user, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) registering form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a
delegated application and delegation term condition data that identifies a term of
requesting said delegated application beforehand so as to be related to application
requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant
10 specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated
application respectively;

(b) receiving an input for specifying said application requester
specification data and accessing a first electronic form by said proxy applicant;

(c) inspecting whether or not a current date adapts to said delegation term
15 condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification
data and said proxy applicant specification data;

(d) inspecting whether or not said first electronic form coincides with said
form condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester
specification data and said proxy applicant specification data; and

20 (e) enabling said first electronic form to be acquired if results of said
inspections performed in (c) and (d) are acceptable.

2. (Original) An electronic form acquiring method employed for an
electronic form system that certifies a user, said method comprising the steps of:

25 (a) registering form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a
delegated application beforehand so as to be related to application requester specification
data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that
specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;

(b) receiving an input for specifying said application requester
30 specification data and accessing a first electronic form by said proxy applicant;

(c) inspecting whether or not said first electronic form adapts to said form condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data; and

(d) enabling said first electronic form to be acquired if a result of said inspection performed in (c) is acceptable.

3. (Original) An electronic form acquiring method employed for an electronic form system that certifies a user, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) registering delegation term condition data that identifies a term of requesting a delegated application beforehand so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;

(b) receiving an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing a first electronic form by said proxy applicant;

(c) inspecting whether or not the current date adapts to said delegation term condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data;

(d) enabling said first electronic form to be acquired if a result of said inspection performed in (c) is acceptable.

4. (Currently Amended) An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with any of Claims 1 to 3_{1/2}, wherein said method further includes a step of filling personal data of said application requester in said acquired first electronic form automatically.

5. (Currently Amended) An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with any of Claims 1 to 4_{1/2}, wherein said method further includes a step of displaying a list of available electronic forms.

6. (Currently Amended) An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with Claim 5_{1/2}, wherein said list of available electronic forms is decided according to an organization to which said application requester belongs.

7. (Currently Amended) An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with Claim 5;₂ wherein each of said electronic forms managed by said electronic form system is related to a delegated application flag indicating whether or not said delegated application is enabled; and said electronic form is available when said delegated application flag indicates "enable."

8. (Currently Amended) An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with any of Claims 1 to 7;₂ wherein an approver related to said electronic form receives a notice recognizable that said application has been submitted and said application requester receives a notice recognizable that said application has been submitted by said proxy applicant when predetermined items are filled in said acquired electronic form and an input for directing submission of said application is made.

9. (Original) An electronic form system, including:

- (a) a directory manager that certifies a user;
- (b) a proxy applicant definition table that manages form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application and delegation term condition data that identifies a term of requesting said delegated application so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;
- (c) a blank form collector, which acquires data that can specify said first electronic form when;
 - (c1) said blank collector is activated in response to an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing said first electronic form by said proxy applicant;
 - (c2) inspecting whether or not the current date coincides with said delegation term condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data;

(c3) inspecting whether or not said first electronic form coincides with said form condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data; and

5 (c4) results of said inspections of said delegation term condition data and said form condition data are acceptable.

10. (Original) An electronic form system, which can certify a user, including:

(a) a directory manager that certifies a user;

10 (b) a proxy applicant definition table that manages form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;

15 (c) a blank form collector, which acquires data that can specify said first electronic form when;

(c1) said blank collector is activated in response to an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing said first electronic form by said proxy applicant;

20 (c2) inspecting whether or not said first electronic form adapts to said form condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data; and

(c3) a result of said inspection of said delegation term condition data is acceptable.

25 11. (Original) An electronic form system, including:

(a) a directory manager that certifies a user;

30 (b) a proxy applicant definition table that manages delegation term condition data that identifies a term of requesting a delegated application so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;

(c) a blank form collector, which acquires data that can specify said first electronic form when;

(c1) said blank collector is activated in response to an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing said first electronic form by said proxy applicant;

(c2) inspecting whether or not the current date coincides with said delegation term condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data; and

(c3) a result of said inspection of said form condition data is acceptable.

12. (Previously Presented) A storage medium for storing a program that acquires an electronic form, said program being executed in an electronic form system for certifying a user and containing:

(a) a program code for accessing a memory in which form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application and delegation term condition data that identifies a term of requesting said delegated application are registered so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;

(b) a program code for recognizing that an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing said first electronic form, is received by said proxy applicant;

(c) a program code for inspecting whether or not the current time coincides with said delegation term condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data;

(d) a program code for inspecting whether or not said first electronic form adapts to said form condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data; and

(e) a program code for enabling said first electronic form to be acquired if results of said inspections performed for said delegation term condition data and said form condition data are acceptable.

13. (Previously Presented) A storage medium for storing a program that acquires an electronic form, said program being executed in an electronic form system for certifying a user and containing:

(a) a program code for accessing a memory in which form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application is registered so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;

(b) a program code for recognizing that an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing said first electronic form, is received by said proxy applicant;

(c) a program code for inspecting whether or not said first electronic form adapts to said form condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data; and

(d) a program code for enabling said first electronic form to be acquired if a result of said inspection performed for said form condition data is acceptable.

14. (Previously Presented) A storage medium for storing a program that acquires an electronic form, said program being executed in an electronic form system for certifying a user and containing:

(a) a program code for accessing a memory in which delegation term condition data that identifies a term of requesting a delegated application is registered so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;

(b) a program code for recognizing that an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing said first electronic form, is received by said proxy applicant;

(c) a program code for inspecting whether or not the current time adapts to said delegation term condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data; and

(d) a program code for enabling said first electronic form to be acquired if a result of said inspection performed for said delegation term condition data is acceptable.

15. (Original) A storage medium in accordance with any of Claims 12 to 14,
5 wherein said medium further includes a program code for filling personal data of said application requester in said acquired first electronic form automatically.

16. (Previously Presented) A storage medium in accordance with any of
Claims 12 to 14, wherein said medium further includes a program code for displaying a
10 list of available electronic forms.

17. (Original) A storage medium in accordance with Claim 16, wherein said
list of available electronic forms is decided according to an organization to which said
application requester belongs.

15 18. (Currently Amended) A storage medium in accordance with Claim 16, wherein an electronic form managed by said electronic form system is related to a delegated application flag indicating whether or not said delegated application is enabled; and an electronic form is available when said delegated application flag indicates
20 "enable."

19. (Currently Amended) A storage medium in accordance with any of Claims
12 to 14, 17, and 18, wherein said medium for storing program further contains; a
program code for transmitting a notice to an approver related to said electronic form, said
25 notice being recognizable that said electronic form has been submitted in response to an input for directing said application after predetermined items are filled in said acquired electronic form; and a program code for transmitting a notice to said application requester, said notice being recognizable that said application has been made by said proxy applicant.

30 20. (Previously Presented) An electronic form acquiring method employed for an electronic form system, said method comprising the steps of:

registering form condition data that identifies a form for a delegated application and delegation term condition data that identifies a term for said delegated application, wherein said form condition data and delegation term condition data are related to application requester specification data and proxy applicant specification data, wherein said application requester specification data specifies an application requester and wherein said proxy applicant specification data specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application; and

enabling a first electronic form to be acquired.

21. (Previously Presented) An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with claim 20, wherein said method further includes a step of filling personal data of said application requester in said acquired first electronic form automatically.

22. (Previously Presented) An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with claim 20, wherein said method further includes a step of displaying a list of available electronic forms.

23. (Previously Presented) An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with claim 22, wherein said list of available electronic forms is decided according to an organization to which said application requester belongs.

24. (Previously Presented) An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with claim 22, wherein each of said electronic forms managed by said electronic form system is related to a delegated application flag indicating whether or not said delegated application is enabled; and said electronic form is available when said delegated application flag indicates "enable."

25. (Previously Presented) An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with any of claims 20 to 24, wherein an approver related to said electronic form receives a notice indicating that said application has been submitted and said application requester receives a notice that said application has been submitted by said proxy applicant when

predetermined items are filled in said acquired electronic form and an input for directing submission of said application is made.